

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-90 and add the following new claims 91-129.

1-90. (Canceled)

91. (New) A computer-readable medium having stored thereon a control access data structure for defining an access right to an operation of one or more objects within a computing environment, the control access data structure comprising:

an identification field for storing a unique identifier of the control access data structure;

one or more object identification fields for associating the control access data structure with the one or more objects of the computing environment; and

wherein the control access data structure corresponds to an access control entry of the one or more objects, and wherein the access control entry associates the access right with a trusted user of the computing environment.

92. (New) The computer-readable medium of claim 91, wherein an individual object identification field of the control access data structure stores a unique identifier of an associated object.

93. (New) The computer-readable medium of claim 91 having further stored thereon one or more access control entries (ACE's), wherein each ACE includes a rights field for associating the control access data structure with one of the one or more objects.

94. (New) The computer-readable medium of claim 93, wherein the rights field of each ACE stores the unique identifier of the control access data structure.

95. (New) The computer-readable medium of claim 93, wherein each ACE further includes a trusted user field for associating an ACE with the trusted user of the computing environment.

96. (New) The computer-readable medium of claim 95, wherein the trusted user field of each ACE stores a unique identifier of the trusted user.

97. (New) A computer program for controlling user requested operations on an object in a computing environment having a set of predefined access rights, the computer program being stored on a machine readable medium and comprising:

means for defining an access right component that defines a permission corresponding to a desired operation of the object;

means for associating the access right component with the object;

means for associating the access right component with an access control entry corresponding to the object; and

means for associating the access right component with a user in order to grant the desired operation.

98. (New) The computer program of claim 97, further comprising an administrative tool for controlling the defining means.

99. (New) The computer program of claim 97, further comprising an interface for allowing a user application to programmatically control the defining means.

100. (New) The computer program of claim 97, wherein the means for associating the access right component with the object includes means for storing a unique identifier of the object within a field of a control access data structure created by the defining means.

101. (New) The computer program of claim 97, wherein the means for associating the access right component with the user includes:

means for adding the access control entry (ACE) to an access control list (ACL) that corresponds to the object;

means for storing a unique identifier of a control access data structure within a first field of the ACE; and

means for storing a unique identifier of the user within a second field of the ACE.

102. (New) A method comprising:

creating an access control entry as a component of an access control list that is associated with at least one object in a computing environment, the access control entry identifying a security principal;

defining an extensible access right component that defines access to one or more operations of the at least one object;

associating the extensible access right component with the access control entry such that the security principal is authorized to access the one or more operations of the at least one object.

103. (New) A method as recited in claim 102, wherein defining includes creating the extensible access right component as a component of the access control entry.

104. (New) A method as recited in claim 102, wherein defining the extensible access right component includes defining access to a property of the at least one object.

105. (New) A method as recited in claim 102, wherein defining the extensible access right component includes defining access to a method exposed by the at least one object.

106. (New) A method as recited in claim 102, wherein defining the extensible access right component includes defining access to a property of the at least one object, and wherein associating includes associating the extensible access right component with the security principal such that the security principal is authorized to access the property of the at least one object.

107. (New) A method as recited in claim 102, wherein defining the extensible access right component includes defining access to a method exposed by the at least one object, and wherein associating includes associating the extensible access right component with the security principal such that the security principal is authorized to initiate the method.

108. (New) A method as recited in claim 102, wherein defining includes an application executing in the computing environment defining the extensible access right component.

109. (New) A method as recited in claim 102, wherein defining includes an application executing in the computing environment defining the extensible access right component as a component of the access control entry.

110. (New) A method as recited in claim 102, wherein defining includes creating a control access data structure, and wherein associating includes maintaining a unique identifier of the at least one object with the control access data structure.

111. (New) A method as recited in claim 102, wherein associating includes the access control entry maintaining a unique identifier of the extensible access right component.

112. (New) A method as recited in claim 102, wherein associating includes the access control entry maintaining a unique identifier of a control access data structure that represents the extensible access right component.

113. (New) One or more computer-readable media comprising computer executable instructions that, when executed, direct a computing system to perform the method of claim 102.

114. (New) One or more computer-readable media maintaining an extensible control access right comprising:

a control access data structure that includes:

an identification field to maintain a unique identifier of the control access data structure;

an object identification field to maintain a unique identifier of an object within a computing environment, the object identification field configured to associate the control access data structure with the object; and

wherein the control access data structure defines access by an authorized security principal to one or more operations of the object.

115. (New) One or more computer-readable media as recited in claim 114, wherein the control access data structure further includes at least one other object identification field to maintain a second unique identifier of at least one other object within the computing environment, the one other object identification field configured to associate the control access data structure with the one other object.

116. (New) One or more computer-readable media as recited in claim 114, the extensible control access right further comprising an access control entry that is associated with the object, the access control entry configured to maintain the unique identifier of the control access data structure to associate the control access data structure with the object.

117. (New) One or more computer-readable media as recited in claim 114, the extensible control access right further comprising an access control entry that is associated with the object, the access control entry configured to:

associate the control access data structure with the object; and

associate the authorized security principal with the object and with the control access data structure.

118. (New) One or more computer-readable media as recited in claim 114, the extensible control access right further comprising an access control entry that is associated with the object, the access control entry configured to maintain:

a unique identifier of the control access data structure to associate the control access data structure with the object; and

a unique identifier of the authorized security principal to associate the authorized security principal with the object and with the control access data structure.

119. (New) A computing system comprising:

an operating system to manage one or more objects within the computing system, an individual object having an access control list of predefined operating system permissions to perform corresponding operations on the individual object;

an access control entry to identify a security principal, the access control entry associated with the individual object as a component of the access control list;

an extensible access right to define access to one or more operations of the individual object, the extensible access right associated with the access control entry such that the security principal is authorized to access the one or more operations of the

individual object.

120. (New) A computing system as recited in claim 119, further comprising an application to generate a control access data structure that defines the extensible access right.

121. (New) A computing system as recited in claim 119, further comprising a control access data structure that defines the extensible access right, the control access data structure configured to maintain a unique identifier of the individual object.

122. (New) A computing system as recited in claim 119, further comprising a control access data structure that defines the extensible access right, the control access data structure configured to maintain a unique identifier of the individual object, and wherein the access control entry is configured to maintain a unique identifier of the control access data structure to associate the control access data structure with the individual object and with the security principal.

123. (New) A computing system as recited in claim 119, wherein the access control entry is configured to maintain a unique identifier of the security principal to associate the security principal with the individual object.

124. (New) A computing system as recited in claim 119, wherein the extensible access right further defines access to a property of the individual object.

125. (New) A computing system as recited in claim 119, wherein the extensible access right further defines access to a method exposed by the individual object.

126. (New) A computing system as recited in claim 119, wherein the extensible access right further defines access to a property of the individual object, the extensible access right associated with the access control entry such that the security principal is authorized to access the property of the individual object.

127. (New) A computing system as recited in claim 119, wherein the extensible access right further defines access to a method exposed by the individual object, the extensible access right associated with the access control entry such that the security principal is authorized to initiate the method.

128. (New) A computing system as recited in claim 119, further comprising a control access data structure that defines the extensible access right, and wherein the extensible access right can be redefined with a change of values maintained by the control access data structure.

129. (New) A computing system as recited in claim 119, further comprising a control access data structure that defines the extensible access right, and wherein the extensible access right can be redefined without a change to the access control entry.